

NATIONAL EPA-TRIBAL SCIENCE COUNCIL

Conference Call Summary Monday, October 15, 2012 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time

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Welcome

Monica Rodia, Executive Secretary of the National EPA-Tribal Science Council (TSC), welcomed the members to the teleconference.

September Business Meeting Minutes

Monica reported that the September business meeting minutes had been reviewed and finalized and would be distributed to the TSC members the following day. She encouraged members who are unable to attend meetings to read the minutes so that they are aware of TSC activities.

Preparation for the Fall Face-to-Face Meeting

Monica shared that the upcoming TSC business meeting will be held in Seattle, Washington, from December 4–6, 2012. The Tulalip Tribes of Washington will act as the tribal host. Monica expected that the logistical information would be available by Thursday, October 18, 2012. She explained that the Agenda Development Team (ADT) had been established prior to the Fall 2011 TSC Business Meeting to ensure that the meeting agendas are substantive and productive. The ADT for the upcoming face-to-face meeting met for the first time on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, to discuss potential speakers and presentations. Ted Coopwood explained that the ADT meetings include brainstorming and discussion of ideas to ensure that the agenda for the face-to-face meeting is comprehensive enough to cover the necessary training topics and allow for planning the Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Workshop in June 2013. The ADT members discussed several great agenda ideas. Jeff Mears said that many tribes in the Pacific Northwest are expert on TEK issues, and the TSC can rely on Jim Woods (Makah Nation) for his expertise. Patti Tyler added that it was a great first meeting, and she looks forward to the next one on Wednesday, October 17, 2012. Ted noted that during the ADT meeting, Jeff and Patti pointed out that it is important to include a variety of tribes and regions so that TEK issues from across Indian Country are highlighted. Another key point is that the science of TEK and how this science can be applied at the community level must be considered. The goal is to obtain expertise that “brings the science around TEK home.” Patti reminded the TSC members who are not serving on the ADT that there will be opportunities for them to provide feedback and input as the various agenda drafts are forwarded to them for their consideration.

Roll Call

Monica took roll of those present on the teleconference.

TSC Business

Brenda Groskinsky, Denise Jensen and Stanley Holder had a positive meeting with representatives from Haskell Indian Nations (HIN) University about hosting the TEK Workshop. Denise explained that HIN University would be delighted to host the TEK Workshop. The university has a network of people who could help promote the theme of cultural survival. Dan Wildcat is particularly knowledgeable about the methodology of TEK, which is built on respect and relationships, and would be an excellent presenter no matter where the meeting is held. Another important topic is to understand the language of past environmental conditions. Dan mentioned other TEK experts, including Dennis Martinez, Leroy Little Bear and Margaret Hiza Redsteer. Ted thanked Brenda, Denise and Stanley for obtaining this information, as it is helpful to have as much information as possible about the potential meeting sites. He thanked Katie Tiger and Neil Patterson for their efforts in obtaining information about the hosting sites of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation and Syracuse, New York, respectively. Neil Patterson reported

that the Onondaga Nation and the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment are willing to host the TEK Workshop.

Monica said that EPA Co-Chair nominations are due by October 31, 2012. The vision statement of the elected EPA Co-Chair will be shared with the TSC members following the election. She emphasized the importance of scheduling the Caucus conference calls prior to the December face-to-face meeting. Bear Carrillo has been contracted to act as facilitator for the Tribal Caucus conference calls. Monica offered to help facilitate the invitations for the Tribal Caucus teleconferences, and Katie Tiger volunteered to send Microsoft Outlook invitations to Tribal Caucus teleconference participants.

TSC Overview Document

The TSC members continued their discussion from the June 2012 face-to-face meeting about revisions made to the document by the Tribal and EPA Caucuses. Kristen LeBaron recorded the new revisions directly into the document, which included the previous tracked changes made by the caucuses.

Announcements

Cynthia McOliver announced that a series of webinars devoted to Science To Achieve Results tribal grantees are beginning on October 17, 2012. Mike Durglo explained that the Region 8 Climate Change Planning Committee held its first conference call the prior week. He will send information about the committee to Monica via email.

Ted thanked the members for participating, and Monica adjourned the conference call at 3:29 p.m.

Action Items

- ✧ EPA representatives who are interested in serving as EPA Co-Chair will notify Monica of their interest via email no later than October 31, 2012.
- ✧ TSC members who have suggestions for TEK speakers will contact a member of the ADT team, Jeff, Ted and/or Monica.
- ✧ Mike will send information about the Region 8 Climate Change Planning Committee to Monica via email.

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CONFERENCE CALL

OCTOBER 15, 2012

2:00 – 3:30 P.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Call-in Number: **866-299-3188**

Access Code: **2025648322#**

FINAL AGENDA

- 2:00 – 2:05 Welcome
- 2:05 – 2:10 Business Meeting Minutes
 - September minutes finalized and distributed
- 2:10 – 2:30 Preparation for the Fall 2012 TSC Business Meeting
 - Dates: December 4–6, 2012, in Seattle, Washington
 - Agenda Development Team (ADT)
 - Report out from kickoff meeting on October 10, 2012
 - Next meeting scheduled for October 17, 2012
 - Nominations for TSC Co-Chairs
 - Requirements and process
- 2:30 – 2:35 Roll Call
- 2:35 – 2:45 TSC Business
 - EPA Co-Chair nominations due by October 31 (send nominations and/or vision statements to Monica)
 - Schedule Tribal and EPA Caucus conference calls in preparation for face-to-face meeting
- 2:45 – 3:25 TSC Overview Document
 - Group review of document via Adobe Connect
- 3:25 – 3:30 Announcements

Next conference call—*November 19, 2012, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EDT*